



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

# Ebola Prevention and Response Training

## Airplane Scenario

# Objectives

- To recognize signs and symptoms of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)
- To initiate rapid response measures
- To evaluate current response plans
- To strategize to respond more effectively to a potential EVD outbreak

# Table Top Exercise Instructions

- Systematically think through the case as if it was a real scenario
- Participation and discussion is important
  - Teamwork
  - All comments and questions are valuable

# Who is a Person Under Investigation for Ebola?

## Clinical Criteria

- Fever  $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$
- **OR**
- Any of the Following:
  - Headache
  - Muscle Pain
  - Vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  - Abdominal Pain
  - Unexplained bruising or bleeding

**AND**

## Epidemiological Risk Factors

- Symptom onset within past 21 days of exposure to any of the following:
  - Contact with blood, other bodily fluids or human remains of patient known or suspected to have EVD
  - Residence in or travel to area where EVD transmission is active
  - Direct handling of bats or other non-human primates in endemic area

# Scenario

You are part of the flight staff on a transatlantic flight from London-Heathrow to Charlotte Douglas International Airport. You are alerted to a passenger who starts vomiting, complains of a headache and feels feverish. You are halfway over the Atlantic Ocean, with 4 more hours of the flight remaining.



# Discussion

- What other questions would you ask?



# Scenario Continued

- The passenger reveals that he is traveling from Liberia to visit his family in Charlotte
- He had a layover in London-Heathrow
- He denies any recent contact with sick patients, and he vehemently denies that he could have Ebola
- You notice that he starts frequently using the back airplane lavatory

# Discussion Continued

- Could this be Ebola?





# From an Airline Perspective...

- What preventive measures would you employ to protect airline staff?
- What preventive measures would you employ to protect other passengers?
- What is the seat rule for an ill passenger suspected of Ebola?
- When would it be necessary to consider an unscheduled landing?
- How should you handle the passenger's waste during the flight?

# From the Health Department perspective...

- What is the CDC guidance on the evaluation of ill passengers coming from areas affected with Ebola in West Africa?
- How will you identify the contacts to a person under investigation (PUI) for Ebola?
- What is the role of the CDC Division of Global Migration and Quarantine in providing information about ill passengers or crew members?
- What is the procedure for conducting contact tracing in North Carolina?
- What arrangements need to be made to accommodate and work with CDC investigators, DPH contact tracers, and the media, if necessary?

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**For more information, please contact the North Carolina Division of Public Health Communicable Disease Branch at 919-733-3419**